

Capsule Summary  
SM-666  
Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House  
Leonardtown vicinity  
Private

c. 1900

The Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House, constructed c. 1900, conveys the changes in domestic architecture at the turn of the century. Located near Leonardtown, Maryland, the two story, three bay, frame house reveals the impact of building material standardization upon the county's architectural landscape through its use of dimensioned lumber and mass produced architectural components. Stair details, for instance, consisted of turned balusters and newels that are nearly identical to those found at houses such as Part Massum (SM-235) and the Katie Stevens House (SM-493). An interesting deviation from conventional interior decoration, however, lies in the use of horizontal, tongue-and-groove boards instead of plaster. While epitomizing the changes in architecture, the siting of the house remains grounded in tradition. Situated on top of a ridge overlooking Compton and Rosebank Roads, the house commands impressive prospects of the surrounding countryside. This was certainly the custom of many eighteenth and nineteenth century plantations.

While the Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House will not be demolished to make way for the expansion of the St. Clements Shores Waste Water Treatment Plant, the house is still threatened by construction that will be occurring around it. Like Fox Tenant House (SM-665) much of the architectural details in the Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House have been removed and the house remains in a dilapidated state. Windows have been broken out and the individual rooms have been used as animal pens.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF**  
**HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. SM-666

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Turkey Cock Hill, Vowles Purchase

and/or common Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House (pref.)

**2. Location**

E side of Md. Rt. 243, approx. 2.1 miles S of int. of Md Rts. 243 and 5.

☐ not for publication

city, town Leonardtown

☒ vicinity of

congressional district 3

state Maryland

county

St. Mary's

TM-40, G-8, P-21

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jane Samadi

street & number Sotterley Rd. RR3, Box 456

telephone no.: 301-475-9638

city, town Hollywood

state and zip code Md 20636

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse

liber EWA 1016

street & number

folio 233

city, town Leonardtown

state Md

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-666

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 4

The Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House is located on the east side of Compton Road (Md Route 243) approximately two miles south of the intersection of Compton Road and Md. Route 5. Oriented on an east/west axis, the dwelling is approached via a dirt road that extends eastward from the main road. Situated atop a prominent ridge overlooking cultivated fields and pastures to the west and south, the dwelling is bounded to the east and north by woodlands. A mid-twentieth century, axial plan tobacco barn and a trailer lies to the south of the main house. Closer to the residence is a stripping/storage shed, a non-contributing pool, and a small tractor garage that are all located on the house's north side. The dwelling is in a dilapidated state and has been used as an animal pen for a number of years. Despite assurances that the dwelling will not be demolished, the house is still threatened by the nearby extension of the St. Clements Shores Waste Water Treatment Plant which will result in the demolition of Fox Tenant House (SM-665).

The Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House, constructed c. 1900, is a two story, three-bay, frame dwelling with an L-shaped plan. Constructed on a poured concrete foundation, the exterior walls feature clapboard fastened to the circular sawn frame with cut nails. At the junction of the exterior walls and the raised-seam metal clad roof is an enclosed cornice.

The primary or west elevation's bays are symmetrically arranged and consist of a centrally located panelled door flanked on either side by a two-over-two, double-hung sash window (All windows in the house are two-over-two windows unless otherwise noted and almost all have been broken out.). Only the door is shaded by a porch that is supported by square posts once decorated with scroll sawn brackets. The second floor is pierced by three two-over-two windows. Above the southernmost window is a diamond-shaped pane that is no longer extant. An interior end, brick chimney flue is located on the north side of the elevation.

The south elevation's fenestration is composed of two windows on the first floor and three windows on the second floor. A brick chimney flue projects from the center of the roof.

The east elevation of the house features the projecting gable end of the main block, a one story addition, and the side of the main block. The gable end has a window on the first and second floors. Like the west elevation, the attic story is lit by a diamond shaped pane that has also been broken out. Sheltered by a connecting shed roof porch, the one story addition is pierced by a window. The second floor of the main block's side exhibits two windows.

The north elevation consists of the main block's gable end and side as well as the side of the one story shed addition. The main block's gable end does not have any openings, but the side is pierced on the first floor by a panelled door. The second floor is pierced by two windows. The fenestration of the addition consists of a window.

The interior plan and modest decoration of the house follows early-twentieth century conventions. The front section of the L-plan consists of a center-passage, single pile component that effectively segregates the interior spaces. The center stair allows entry into nearly every space of the house. The open-string stair, itself, originally featured a molded handrail as well as turned balusters and newels. Similar details have been seen in other period dwellings such as Part Massum (SM-235) and the Katie Stevens House (SM-493). Rather than plaster, the entire interior

## 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-666

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House, constructed c. 1900, conveys the changes in domestic architecture at the turn of the century. Built with dimensioned lumber and featuring a number of mass produced architectural components, the house reveals the impact of standardization upon St. Mary's County. Stair details, for instance, consisted of turned balusters and newels that are nearly identical to those found at houses such as Part Massum (SM-235) and the Katie Stevens House (SM-493). An interesting deviation from conventional interior decoration, however, lies in the use of horizontal, tongue-and-groove boards instead of plaster. While epitomizing the changes in architecture, the siting of the house remains grounded in tradition. Situated on top of a ridge overlooking Compton and Rosebank Roads, the house commanded prospects of the surrounding countryside. This was certainly the custom of many eighteenth and nineteenth century plantations.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-666

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 103 acresQuadrangle name LeonardtownQuadrangle scale 1:24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA 

Zone	Easting					Northing			

B 

Zone	Easting					Northing			

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization Private Contractordate 8-24-98street & number PO Box 1235telephone 301-373-5465city or town Leonardtownstate Md

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST.  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

PS-2746

## SM-666, Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House

St. Mary's County

### 7.1 Description

of the house is sheathed with horizontal, beaded, tongue-and-groove, four inch boards. The stair and northernmost room appear to have been the most decorated spaces of the house. The north room presently exhibits a scar on its north wall indicating where a mantel was once situated. To the south of the passage is another heated parlor that is then connected to another room that extends to the east. This east room features a boxed winder stair to the second floor. A door located on the north wall of this space represents the only entrance into the one story addition. The second floor of the dwelling mimics the floor plan of the first as it contains three bedrooms and a passage.

The tobacco barn, situated to the south of the main house, is a one story frame structure sheathed on the exterior with vertical boards that are hinged to allow for proper ventilation. The roof is covered with raised-seam metal. Most likely constructed in the mid-twentieth century, the barn will be retained. A non-contributing, one story, metal sheathed trailer lies just to the east of the barn.

A frame, one story stripping/storage shed lies in close proximity to the north of the main house. It contains three distinct spaces and may have also been used as a chicken coop. The clapboard sheathed, circular sawn frame lies on a poured concrete foundation and the roof is covered with raised seam metal. A small frame garage lies to the northwest of the main house.

# Photo Documentation

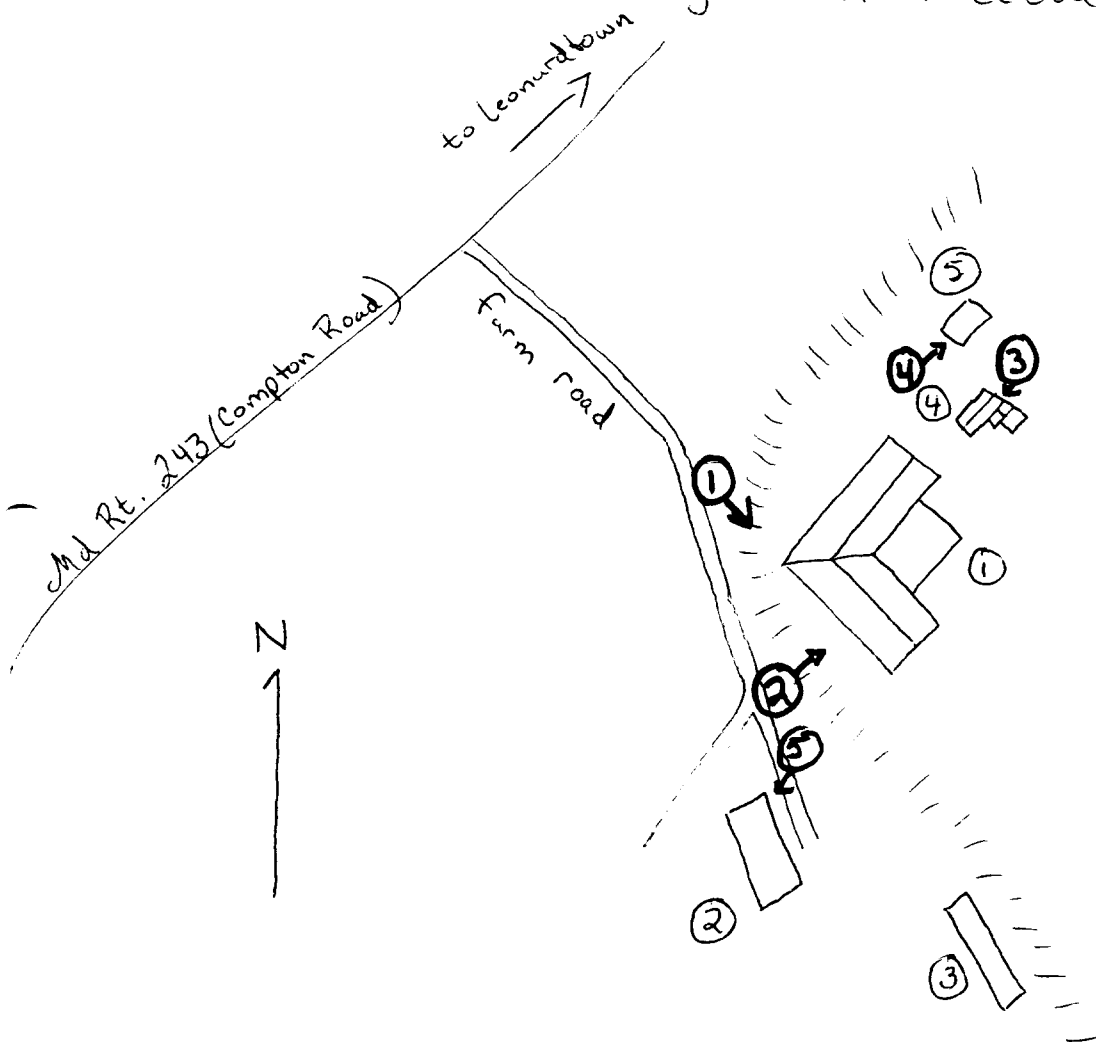
E  
↓

## Site Plan

SM-666, Turkey Cack Hill Tenant House

8-21-98

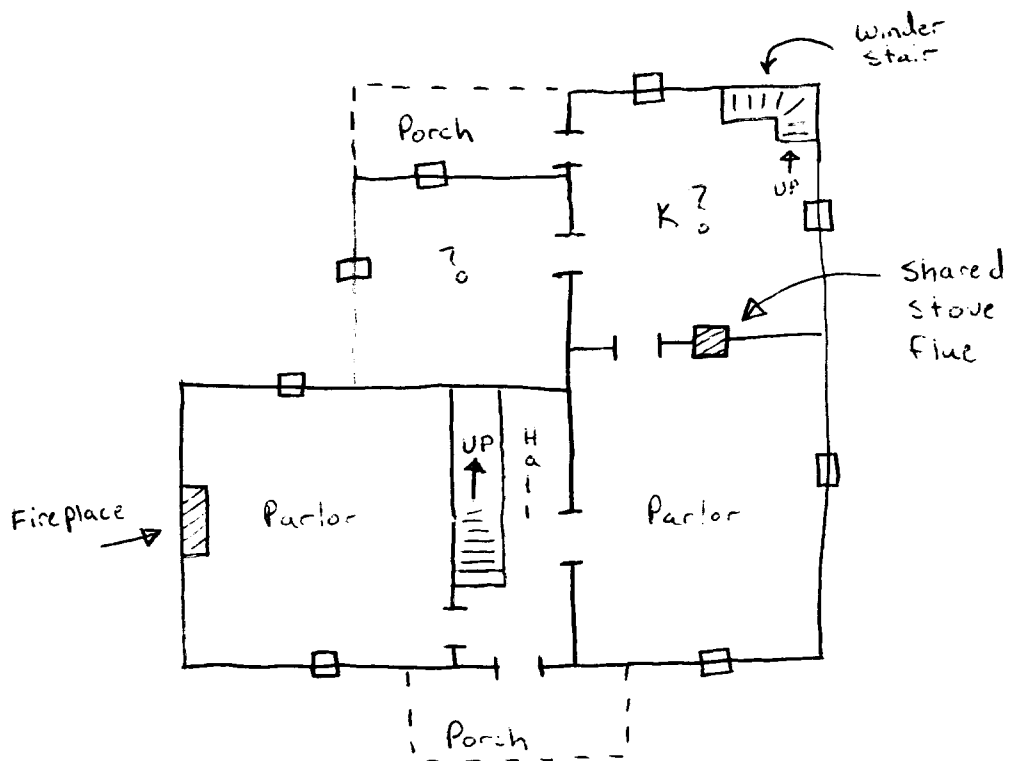
Drawn By: Kirk Ranzetta



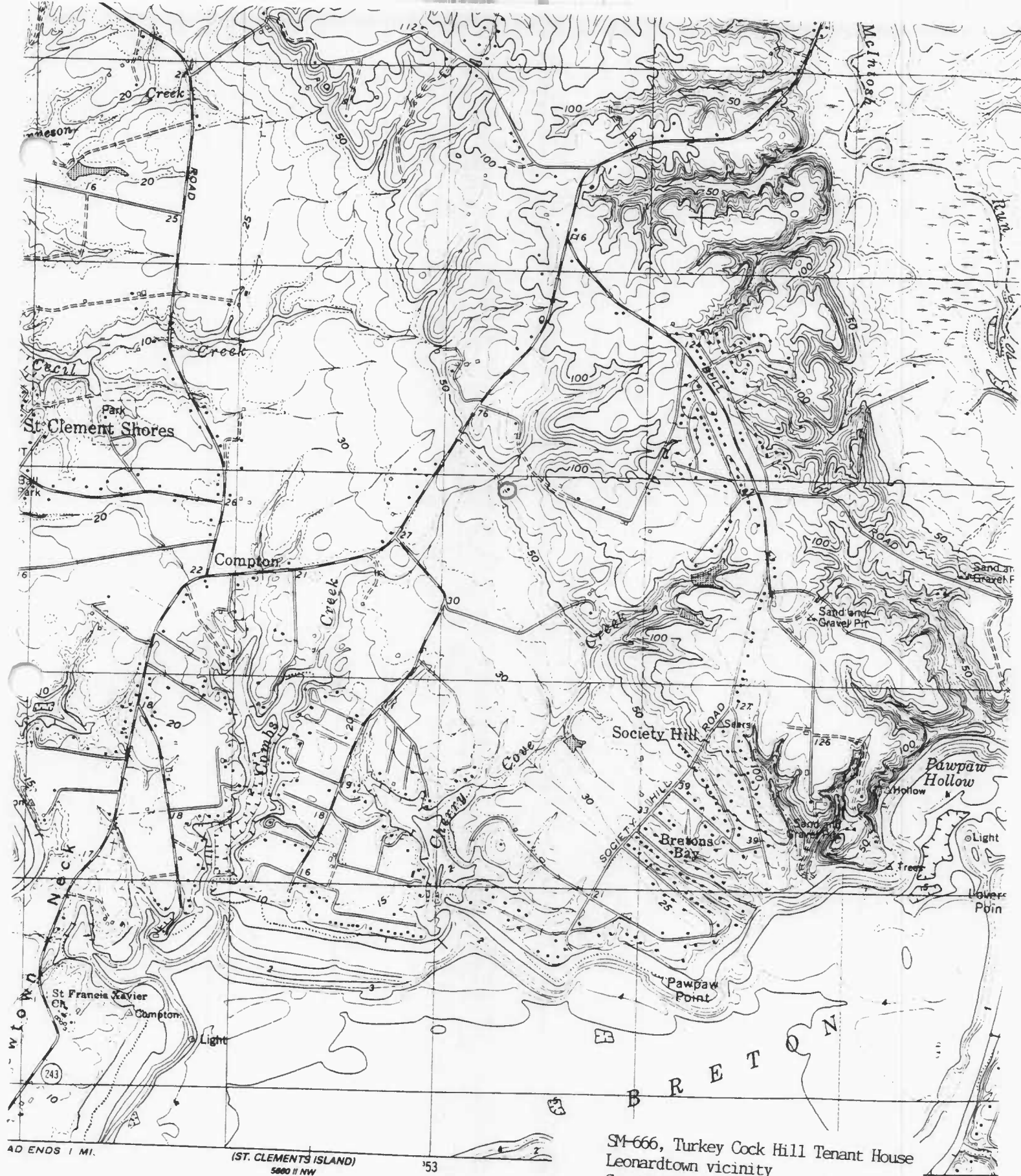
- ① Main House
- ② Tobacco Barn
- ③ Trailer
- ④ Stripping Shed/Coop
- ⑤ Garage

Photos in Red

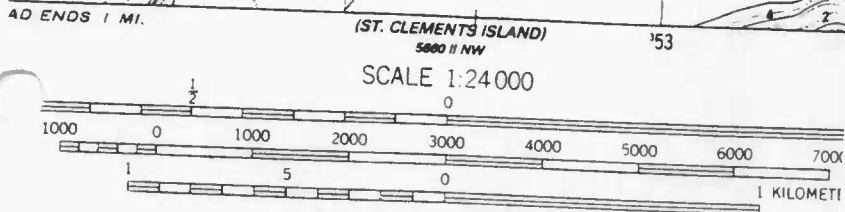
First Floor Plan  
Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House  
SM-666  
9-15-98  
Drawn By: Kirk Ranzetta







SM-666, Turkey Cock Hill Tenant House  
 Leonardtown vicinity  
 St. Mary's County  
 Leonardtown Quad



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 OASHEO LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
 BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY  
 0.5 METER CONTOURS—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER

MARYLAND



SM-666

Turkey Creek Billboard House

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Parsons

August 1998

4d CHPO

W + S elevation

1 of 2



CM-666

Turkey Creek Rd. Turner House

St. Mary's County, MD

Kirk Parzella

August 1998

42 SHPS

Elevation

2 of 6



SM-666

Turkey Rock Hill - Forest House

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

August, 1998

old SPK

Stripping shed roof - w/ elevations

3 of 5





2M-666

Two King Cock Hill Tenants House

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Porcetta

August 1998

old SPPC

garage - 3 elevations

1 of 6



CL-666

Turkey Cock Hill Tavern House

St. Mary's County, Md

Rich. Parzelle

August 1977

4d SHD

Tabular Index F + Neleondians

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